

# CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

## Statement Regarding Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Students

*The California Postsecondary Education Commission reaffirms its commitment to educational policy that affirmatively supports the rights of all students to equitable access to postsecondary education. It also calls for equitable treatment of underrepresented students so that they have the opportunity to succeed and thrive in the state's colleges and universities.*

*In many ways described by speakers at the December 2008 Commission meeting, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) students are invisible. Testimony indicates they face discrimination, harassment, social isolation, and other negative treatment on college campuses because of their sexual orientation and/or their gender identity, but that their needs are often met with silence and benign neglect.*

*The Commission calls upon all California postsecondary educational institutions to affirm the rights of these students to be free of discriminatory treatment, and to feel welcome on their campuses. It is also important for colleges and universities to learn more about these students through the collection of data, to provide programs that support their sense of belonging on campus, and to assure they are safe in classes, in living quarters, and in any campus-based activity in which they may participate.*

*University administrators, starting at the top, must send a message that affirms the rights of LGBT students and consistently supports them as full members of the campus community.*



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Olivia K. Singh, Commission Chair